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OR
CITY OF TRURO

Annual Reports

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health:

V. E. WHITMAN, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

AND

Sanitary Inspector:

H. C. LISTER, M.S.I.A.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

31st DECEMBER, 1954

OSCAR BLACKFORD LTD., PRINCES STREET, TRURO

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1954

The MAYOR OF TRURO (Councillor L. A. HOSKINS)

Chairman: Councillor R. J. Williams.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor T. W. R. Christophers.

Aldermen:

A. A. Behenna, F. Richards.

Councillors:

H. J. P. Teague; S. Wilson; W. Allen; D. Rudd; W. J. Bowden;
Mrs. D. Wilson; Mrs. Cornish.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Medical Officer of Health:

V. E. Whitman, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:

H. C. LISTER, M.S.I.A.

CITY OF TRURO

Annual Report of the Medical Officer for the year ending 31st December, 1954.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my report on the health of the City of Truro in 1954.

My comments have been included in the appropriate places in the report itself. Where it seems they would be informative, the figures for 1953 have been shown in brackets alongside those for 1954. I hope you will pay particular attention to Mr. Lister's report which provides ample evidence of the diligence we have all learned to expect from him.

I should like to express once more my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their consideration and support during the year and Mr. Lister for his loyal co-operation.

I have the honour to be

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

V. E. WHITMAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of City (acres)	...	...	...	2,450
Population (mid 1954)	...	...	...	13,420 (13,350)
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	4,128 (4,017)
Rateable value	...	...	...	£90,049
Product of penny rate	...	...	...	£357 14 8
Number of houses built, or under construction since 1945	...	...	...	580 (469)
Number of families on waiting list for houses	...	...	...	600 (708)

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

Males 106 (87)	Females 84 (102)	Total 190 (189)
Registrar General's "Area Comparability Factor"		0.99 (1.01)
Birth rate, per 1,000 population — Truro	...	14.0 (14.3)
Birth rate, per 1,000 population —		
England and Wales	...	15.2 (15.5)

Still Births

Males 2 (2)	Females 2 (5)	Total 4 (7)
Still birth rate, per 1,000 all births — Truro	...	20.6 (35.7)
Still birth rate, per 1,000 all births —		
England and Wales	...	24.0 (22.4)

Deaths

Males 65 (70)	Females 76 (90)	Total 141 (160)
Registrar General's "Area Comparability Factor"		0.86 (1.01)
Death rate, per 1,000 population — Truro	...	9.0 (12.1)
Death rate, per 1,000 population —		
England and Wales	...	11.3 (11.4)

Deaths of Infants Under 1 Year

Males 1 (4)	Females 2 (4)	Total 3 (8)
Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births — Truro		15.8 (43.3)
Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births —		
England and Wales	...	25.5 (26.8)

All the infant deaths occurred during the first four weeks of life and all, in the present state of our knowledge, were quite unavoidable.

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

	1953	1954
Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	1
Tuberculosis, other	2	—
Syphilitic diseases	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	—	—
Malignant neoplasm stomach	4	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	3	6
Malignant neoplasm, breast	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	4	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	15	12
Leukaemia and aleukaemia	1	—
Diabetes	3	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	20	25
Coronary disease, angina	14	17
Hypertension with heart disease	9	5
Other heart disease	24	24
Other circulatory disease	7	7
Influenza	—	1
Pneumonia	1	5
Bronchitis	8	3
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	—	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	1	—
Congenital malformations	2	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	22	14
Motor vehicle accidents	—	1
All other accidents	6	5
Suicide	2	—
Homicide and operations of war	—	—
	<hr/> 160	<hr/> 141

DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS

	M	F	TOTAL
Under 1 year	1 (4)	2 (4)	3 (8)
1— 4 years	2 (1)	0 (0)	2 (1)
5—14 ,,	0 (0)	1 (1)	1 (1)
15—24 ,,	1 (2)	0 (0)	1 (2)
25—44 ,,	1 (5)	1 (3)	2 (8)
45—64 ,,	16(20)	16(11)	32(31)
65—74 ,,	29(20)	20(23)	49(43)
75 + ,,	15(18)	36(48)	51(66)

70.9% of all the deaths were of persons over 65 years of age. In 1953 this figure was 68.1%.

It will be seen that the Vital Statistics are distinctly better than those for 1953 and, save for the birth rate, better than those for the United Kingdom as a whole. Too much emphasis must not be placed on any statistics based on the small numbers with which we have to deal, but the improvement in the Infant Mortality Rate and the Still Birth Rate are very gratifying. In my 1953 report I contended that the Area Comparability Factor for Deaths should be less than unity rather than higher. For 1954 the Registrar General has given us 0.86 as our Area Comparability Factor.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICE

1. CLINICS

Child Welfare — Attendances at the Infant Welfare Clinic averaged 22 per session. The average for 1953 was 26.

Dental — The number of mothers who took advantage of the dental service offered by the County Council increased considerably in 1954 after a disappointing succession of decreases. It is to be hoped that the improved trend will continue.

	Expectant and Nursing Mothers	Pre-School Children	School Children
Inspected	41(17)	73(48)	1,946(973)
Required treatment	39(16)	67(46)	1,656(882)
Persons treated	39(16)	66(46)	1,084(792)
Attendances	195(81)	113(92)	2,940(1,724)
Made dentally fit	29(14)	53(41)	979(701)

2. AMBULANCE SERVICE

	1951	1952	1953	1954
Ambulances	6	6	7	7
Utilecons	4	4	4	4
Patients carried:—				
Ambulances	4,565	4,341	3,723	5,458
Utilecons	9,599	10,475	12,299	9,839
Hospital Car Service	1,723	1,642	425	959
Miles travelled:—				
Ambulances	70,901	61,069	59,706	75,280
Utilecons	94,314	103,430	113,151	87,344
Hospital Car Service	48,555	35,487	5,875	18,160

3. HOME HELP SERVICE

The establishment of Home Helps was 8. Help was given in their own homes to 30 (37) maternity and 82 (70) other cases during the year. Pressure on this invaluable service is increasing and if people in need of help are not to be refused, some increase must be made in the establishment. But for the help offered by the service many who are now living happily in their own homes, would be in hospitals or institutions.

4. AFTER-CARE GRANTS

Free grants of extra nourishment were made to 4 tubercular patients on the recommendation of the Chest Physician.

5. LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Truro Public Health Laboratory examined and reported on 8 samples of ice cream and 31 samples of water during the year.

6. WATER SUPPLY

The Truro Water Company provided an ample supply of wholesome water to the City throughout the year. Samples were taken for bacteriological examination at frequent intervals and all but one proved satisfactory (see Mr. Lister's report).

I have for some years pressed for an impounding scheme to take the place of the two small streams from which Truro gets its water supply. Unfortunately it has been decided that impounding would be too expensive and the Water Company has now prepared a scheme to take water from yet a third stream in order to obtain the

additional water required to meet the increasing needs of the City. It is maintained that modern treatment can ensure a safe drinking water however polluted the streams may be, and this of course is true.

Safety however is not the sole consideration, nor when the human element is involved can it be guaranteed 100%. There is also the danger that the supply may fail, streams of the size in question have been known to dry out almost completely — we were on the verge of this in 1949. Should such a catastrophe occur, the problem of supplying even as little as two or three gallons per head per day to Truro's population might have to be solved by importing water from Falmouth in road tankers.

7. HOME NURSING, MIDWIFERY & HEALTH VISITING

		1954	1953
General cases nursed	...	261	702
General Nursing visits	...	7,551	5,768
Midwifery cases	...	104	132
Midwifery visits	...	2,378	3,960
Ante-natal visits	...	762	840
Health visits to children			
under 5 years of age	...	4,298	4,559
Visits to elderly people	...	4,075	3,338

Miss Margaret Gray, Assistant County Nursing Officer, reports—
 “The figures for 1954 are not strictly comparable with those for 1953 as the rural parishes of Kea and Kenwyn have now been detached. This has reduced the pressure on the staff to some extent but the work in the City is still remarkably heavy in relation to the population.

The fact that we have had the full establishment of two Health Visitors working in the City throughout the year has had beneficial results. Outstanding is the reduction in the number of verminous heads among school-children. To achieve this the Health Visitors have had to persuade whole households to submit to cleansing and this has sometimes been very difficult. The problem of the child leaving school and entering employment while still verminous remains though it is hoped there will in future be fewer of these.

The initial planning for the visit of the Mass Radiography Unit in early 1955 took a great deal of my time towards the end of the year,”

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Age Group	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles		Acute Pneumonia	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— 1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
1— 2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
3— 4	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—
5— 9	2	1	3	3	—	—	—	—
10—14	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
15—24	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
25—44	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
45—64	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 +	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	2	2	8	7	3	—	1	2
TOTAL	4		15		3		3	

In addition to the above there was one sporadic case of Meningococcal Meningitis and there were two cases of Acute Rheumatism in school children. There was also a case of Influenzal Meningitis in a child of 15 months who made a satisfactory recovery.

Diphtheria

There was no case of the disease during the year. 159 (104) children under 5 years and 28 (82) between the ages of 5 years and 14 years were given primary immunising doses. Of these 118 (109) received the combined antigen which also affords protection against whooping cough. 272 (295) children already immunised, were given booster doses.

It was estimated that on the 31st December, 1954, there were 714 (719) children in Truro between the ages of one and five years. Of these 479 (490) or 67.1% (68.1%) had been protected against diphtheria by immunisation. This figure is below the 1953 figure by 1% and is below the safety level of 70—75%.

Smallpox

There were no smallpox cases in Truro in 1954. 68 (68) children and 10 (17) persons over 15 years of age were vaccinated and 15 (37) re-vaccinations were done.

Tuberculosis

Age Group years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary M	Non-Pulmonary F	Pulmonary M	Non-Pulmonary F	Pulmonary M	Non-Pulmonary F	Pulmonary M	Non-Pulmonary F
Under 5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—44	—	3	—	2	—	—	—	—
45—64	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 +	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	6	6	—	2	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	12	2	1	—				

The number of tubercular patients on the register at the 31st December, 1954 was 95 (89) respiratory and 18 (16) non-respiratory making a total of 113 (105) cases. This gives an incidence of 8.4 (7.9) known cases per 1,000 of population.

It will be seen that these figures for 1954 are higher than those for 1953. This increase is inevitable and will continue for some years to come. It is due to the simple fact that while the incidence of new cases is falling only slightly, if at all, the death rate has fallen precipitately. Other than death the only way of getting a name off the Register is by removal or recovery. Removals out are more than counterbalanced by removals in and the number of recoveries, though undoubtedly on the increase, is still lower than the annual increment of new cases.

By the end of 1954 the number of children who had been vaccinated against tuberculosis with B.C.G. had risen to 730 (530). Of these 135 (62) were contacts of known cases of the disease and 585 (468) were school leavers, the parents of whom had accepted the offer of this protective procedure.

The annual X-ray examination of school children aged 13 years and over was postponed until the Spring of 1955.

CITY OF TRURO

CITY SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1954

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report for 1954.

The year has certainly been an eventful one — the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, included in its enactments that every local authority shall, within one year, after the commencement of the Act, submit to the Minister proposals for dealing with houses within the district of the authority which appear to the authority to be unfit for human habitation; the de-requisitioning of requisitioned premises has been thrust upon the authority; and the de-control of meat was yet another factor which caused the authority some concern at the time with regard to local arrangements.

Altogether the year has been as busy as it has been eventful, and I am grateful for the able assistance given throughout the year by Mrs. Allen.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. C. LISTER,

City Sanitary Inspector.

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT

The following visits and inspections have been made:—

1. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936		
(a) Housing	...	264
(b) Drainage (including nuisances from overflowing cesspools)	...	169
(c) Sanitary Accommodation (including Schools)	...	23
(d) Water Supply (including collection of samples)	...	34
(e) Water Courses	...	14
(f) Keeping of Animals	...	15
(g) Accumulations	...	12
(h) Infestations (Dirty or verminous premises)	...	31
(i) Other Infestations	...	10
(j) Infectious Diseases	...	14
(k) Cinemas	...	11
(l) Moveable Dwellings	...	19
(m) Public Health Miscellaneous	...	35
2. MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS	...	164
3. HOUSING ACT		
(a) Rehousing	...	341
(b) Inspections (including survey in progress)	...	254
4. FOOD AND DRUGS ACT & PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS:		
(a) Food, including Condemnations	...	87
(b) Premises	...	35
(c) Ice-cream Sampling and inspections	...	13
(d) Visits to Slaughterhouse	...	83
5. FACTORIES ACT	...	15
6. SHOPS ACT	...	22
7. RODENT CONTROL	...	96
8. MISCELLANEOUS (including Hackney Carriages)	...	40
		<hr/>
	TOTAL	...
		1,801
		<hr/>

HOUSING

Slum Clearance: The work on housing culminated with the submission of my Report on Slum Clearance. The Report revealed the serious situation facing the Council and put forward a provisional estimate of 434 unfit houses which should be demolished mainly by Clearance Area procedure.

For the purpose of the Report four areas were marked on a plan: Area I contained an estimated number of 64 unfit houses out of a total of 170; Area 2 contained an estimated number of 103 unfit houses out of a total of 270; Area 3 contained an estimated number of 130 unfit houses out of a total of 222; Area 4 contained an estimated number of 86 unfit houses out of a total of 285.

In addition to the unfit houses included in the defined areas, it was estimated that there were 51 unfit houses in the remainder of the district.

The possibility of No. 3 being regarded as a Redevelopment Area under the Housing Act received consideration by the Committee not only because it was the Area which contained the greatest number of unfit houses, but also because it presented an attractive proposition for redevelopment.

It was decided to endeavour to complete the Slum Clearance Scheme within a period of five years.

At the time of writing this report it is known that Truro's quota of new Council Houses over the period of the next five years is likely to be 35 per annum, and that no supplementary allocation is likely to be made in respect of houses necessary to replace those demolished. The implications are at once obvious with an existing waiting-list of 500 applicants of which it is estimated that only about 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % live in the houses provisionally scheduled for demolition.

It seems that the problem of Deferred Demolition will be much debated during 1955, but in my opinion the emphasis must still be on ultimate demolition. Extensive improvements and modernisation appears out of the question not only on the grounds of unreasonable cost but also by reason of structural conditions, congestion and bad arrangement of the majority of the houses listed. To prolong indefinitely the life of such premises would be a retrograde step. For example an area of 2,700 square yards contains 36 houses — a density of 64 per acre.

Repairs and Rents: During the year the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, became law and the Slum Clearance Report referred to above was prepared and submitted to your Committee in pursuance of the requirements of Section 1 of the Act.

Further heavy pressure was expected as a result of rent increases, but only two applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received. Both were granted.

It is felt that the Standard of Fitness prescribed in Section 9 of the Act is not specific enough. But apparently it has gone far enough to make property owners hesitate in the matter of rent increases under the Act until they have some indication of the local authority's interpretation of the Standard.

Carlyon Cottages: The negotiations between the Charity Commissioners, the local Charity and the local authority relative to the possible acquisition of these sub-standard Cottages by the Council, for the purpose of extensive improvements made little progress, although towards the end of the year a more favourable trend in the negotiations developed. Meanwhile the local Charity is co-operating fully and vacancies are not being re-let.

2—6, Walsingham Place: In view of the fact that these houses are on the Scheduled List, in 1953 an approach was made to the Planning Authority who stated that in their opinion the preservation of these houses was no longer an economic possibility, and that they could not foresee any objection to the removal of these premises from the Scheduled List. The Ministry did not agree. As a result the Council in pursuance of powers contained in Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1949, substituted Closing Orders in lieu of the Demolition Orders on the 4th March, 1954.

Demolitions: During the year the demolition of certain terraced houses took place (in one case as a result of formal action by the Council). The effect on the cob party walls was such that prompt first-aid work became necessary prior to more permanent work on demolition of the remainder. It serves as a pointer to the difficulties confronting the Council in the implementation of the Slum Clearance Scheme.

Rehousing: During the year 87 Council Houses were completed. Three general allocations of lettings were made. In the first allocation short-lists of 167 applicants were prepared, circumstances checked

and visits made; in the second allocation short-lists of 110 applicants were prepared; and in the third allocation short-lists of 124 applicants were prepared. In addition to these general allocations, several allocations of lettings concerning casual vacancies were made. The number of interviews with prospective Council House tenants have not been recorded but they were certainly heavy, and the figure would have been interesting. A review of the Housing List was commenced in December, but was not completed in the year. It is estimated that the revised list will contain 500 applicants.

All Council Houses becoming vacant were inspected by me and by a member of the City Surveyor's Department.

Requisitioned premises had to be derequisitioned by the end of the year. This was achieved with three exceptions. In the case of two other requisitioned houses negotiations for purchase were taking place. Another property (a house converted to two self-contained flats) was purchased. Twelve families were rehoused from requisitioned premises. In view of the general housing situation this proved an unwelcome strain on resources.

Action Under Section 11: Seven reports were submitted in respect of houses which were unfit for human habitation and were not capable at a reasonable cost of being rendered so fit. As a result notices were served under the above Section, and in 3 cases the City Council accepted undertakings from the owners concerned that the houses should not be used for human habitation, until the Council were satisfied that the houses had been rendered fit and until the Council had cancelled the Undertakings. Three Demolition Orders were made and one Closing Order under Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Informal Action

Premises				Work completed			
Sec. 39	Sec. 44	Sec. 45	Sec. 93	Sec. 39	Sec. 44	Sec. 45.	Sec. 93
26	1	18	86	10	—	6	49

Formal Action

Sec. 39	Sec. 44	Sec. 45	Sec. 93	Sec. 39	Sec. 44	Sec. 45.	Sec. 93
11	—	9	25	9	—	9	15

Amongst the complaints received were a number with regard to dampness in the Cornish Unit flats. The dampness in a few cases

was excessive. The trouble would appear to be that of condensation. The City Surveyor carried out a very detailed investigation and ultimately an anti-condensation paint of cork content was tried, and there is hope that this will prove a satisfactory remedy.

Disinfestations were carried out to 15 premises, 14 in respect of flea infestations and 1 in respect of a bug infestation. Eight of the properties treated were under Council Control (7 Council Houses and 1 requisitioned house).

During the year it was found necessary to apply for a Warrant to enter premises, (pursuant to Section 287(2) of the Public Health Act, 1936). These premises on inspection were found to be in a dirty and verminous condition, and action was taken under Section 83. Subsequently, following action taken by the Medical Officer of Health, the householder was removed to Budock Hospital. A son was left in occupation. The house was cleansed, disinfested and distempered.

Householders were again appreciative of the help given in connection with the destruction of Wasps' nests, and also for the treatment provided in cases of heavy infestations by Ants.

Moveable Dwellings:

The arrangement and control of the one licensed site remains good. The site has much extended during the year, and the provision of additional sanitary accommodation will have to be considered.

The site is not much used for holiday purposes and its expansion is a reflection of the difficult housing position.

During the year a shed which was being used for human habitation without licence was demolished by agreement with the owner.

Drainage:

During the year a complaint was received as to a nuisance from smell at a dormitory of a large Boarding School. An inspection was made and the attention of the authorities was drawn to certain defects in the septic tank drainage system. As a result a local firm of Architects were employed to supervise the necessary remedial work, and close contact was maintained with them.

Choked drainage systems were dealt with promptly, and where any delay appeared probable the work was carried out by this department, and the cost charged to the owner.

594 Cesspools necessitating 1,314 loads were emptied during the year; disposal is at a suitable manhole point to the sewer.

Burial of the Dead:

Only one death occurred during the year where it appeared no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body had been made. No relatives could be traced. As a result arrangements for the burial were made in pursuance of powers contained in Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948. Cash on the person and certain personal belongings were set against the cost of the burial.

Water Supply:

Thirty-one samples of water were taken from the public service supply from private houses and schools, thirty of which were satisfactory. The unsatisfactory one was from school premises, but another sample taken from another part of the district on the same day was satisfactory. The matter was fully investigated by this department and the Truro Water Company; check samples taken proved satisfactory and the trouble did not recur. At the time I reported that the unsatisfactory nature of the sample was probably due to local trouble arising as a result of the freeze-up.

General:

During the early part of the year a severe spell of frosty weather was experienced, with the usual crop of burst pipes which follows. These were dealt with promptly with one or two exceptions. The plumbing trade was helpful and co-operative.

Due to the milder winters usually experienced in this part of the country there is a general lack of anti-frost measures with the result that the damage is generally unusually heavy.

The year closed with heavy gales and flood. Damage was extensive and many roofs suffered as a result. Fortunately builders gave gale damage preference and houses suffering damage were quickly weatherproofed.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT and PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS

Meat Inspection:

The year was noteworthy in view of the fact that the rationing of meat ended officially at Midnight on 3rd July, 1954 — the last distribution of meat by the Ministry to Wholesalers and Retailers took place on the 30th June.

Little time was left to make the necessary arrangements, and considerable concern was felt. A survey was made of the slaughterhouses in use before the war, and only one was available.

A conference with the Butchers took place, and it became evident that the majority of butchers would be obtaining their supplies through wholesale sources.

The one slaughterhouse, which now serves one of the largest butchery establishments in Truro and a branch at Newquay, was improved and extended; an Ideal Boiler was installed from which an adequate supply of hot water is obtained; main water supply was also laid on. A licence expiring 1st July, 1957, was granted.

The regular days for killing are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays. Every attempt has been made to inspect the meat at the time of slaughter. During holiday periods I have held myself available for this work.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED SINCE

3rd JULY, 1954

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed	204	1	22	714	104
No. inspected	191	1	20	666	89
All Diseases except Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—
Whole Carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	27	—	—	22	1
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	26	—	—	—	6

During the year the following was condemned:—

195 lbs. Hindquarters Beef (N.Z.) — Bone Taint

378 lbs. Imported Frozen Hearts — Excessive Mildew

Complaints from butchers were received in connection with a consignment of frozen pork “bellies.” The meat appeared of poor quality with a strange smell which was not easily identified, but there were no grounds for condemnation. Samples were taken and submitted to the Laboratory and this opinion was confirmed. The butchers were still strong in their objections, so a joint meeting at the Distribution Depot was arranged when the Ministry representatives attended. There were no further complaints.

Canned and Other Foods:

610 certificates have been issued and the following food condemned:—

154	tins Meat	1	Bottle Rennet
72	tins Milk	8	Trays Peaches
643	tins Preserves	9	Cases Stewed Steak and
32	tins Soup		Kidney
32	tins Fish	2	Boxes Cod Fillet
238	tins Vegetables	66	lbs. Turkey Trimmings
286	lbs. Sausages	31½	lbs. Slab Cake
68½	lbs. Pork Luncheon	13	bottles Orange Juice
88	lbs. Brisket Beef	49	Oranges
128½	lbs. Cheese	4	Lemons
123½	lbs. Corned Beef	40	Meat Pies
290¼	lbs. Cooked Ham	9	lbs. Sugar
123	lbs. Tongue	1	Gallon Tomato Sauce
49½	lbs. Jellied Veal	1	Stone Haddock
1	tin Gelatine	3	lbs. Hogs Pudding
1	Pkt. Suet	2	tins Ovaltine
2	lbs. Sweets	71	Pkts. Chicken Noodle Soup
10	Pkts. Bisto	4	lbs. Hyfoam Cream
8	Stone Plaice	7	lbs. Vermicelli
1	Jar Potato Salad	1	Pkt. Table Salt
4	Camembert Cheese	1	Table Jelly
7½	lbs. Liver	1	tin Spaghetti
2	Jars Anchovy Paste	2	Cases Herrings
2	Jars Essence of Lemon	3	Quarts Vinegar
2	Doz. Eggs.	1	Bottle Cider
3	Crates Spanish Plums	1	Bottle Cocktail Sausages
5	Stone Lemon Sole	1	Bottle Cashew Nuts
10	Jars Meat Paste	1	Pkt. Meringue Mixture

10 lbs. Onions	3 x 5 Kilos Tomato Puree
3 Pkts. Green Tea	28 x 5 Kilos Peach Pulp
5½ lbs. Biscuits	31 x 5 Kilos Apricot Pulp
54 Boxes Cheese	16 Bottles Sauce
1 Dutch Cheese	120 lbs. Tomatoes
4 Bath Chaps	7 x 6 lb. tins Stewed Steak
3 tins Chicken	36 Cakes (various)
70 Jars Pickles	63 Pkts. Cereal
43 Jars Jam	271 Fishcakes
18 lbs. Plain Flour	10 lbs. Puff Pastry

A sample of Non-Brewed Condiment manufactured in Truro was collected at a Fish and Chip shop in Newquay and was found to contain nematode worms. These worms exist in mud, sand or water. They are harmless but of course aesthetically undesirable. An investigation was carried out at the point of production, and everything was found to be satisfactory. Only water from the main supply was used. The worms may have been introduced at a point after the condiment had left the producer.

Milk:

	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
T.T. MILK	36	29	7
Undesignated Raw Milk	48	40	8
Pasteurised Milk	57	57	—
	141	126	15

In addition to the above 13 samples of undesignated raw milk were submitted for biological examination and no T.B. was found.

With regard to the Tuberculin Tested Milk one source of supply accounting for four of the unsatisfactory samples had to be referred to the Area and Milk Advisory Officer for investigation. Sterility rinses of utensils were taken from the milking machine and a bottle tested and found to have a low bacterial count. The next five samples taken after the investigation proved satisfactory, but a sample taken at the end of the year proved unsatisfactory, and the matter was again referred to the Area Milk Advisory Officer.

PREMISES

Food and Drugs Act, 1938:

No formal action was taken during the year. Informal action was taken in respect of four premises — two in respect of extensive works of redecorations. In each case the work was put in hand, and it is unlikely that formal action will have to be taken.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	Type of Property			All other (including Business & Industrial	TOTAL
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agri- cultural		
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority District	25	4,200	26	825	5,076
2. Number of properties inspected during 1954 as a result of					
(a) notification or (a)	—	35	—	7	42
(b) otherwise (b)	25	840	10	38	913
3. Number of properties (under 11) found to be infested by rats					
Major	1	—	—	—	—
Minor	10	73	2	15	100
4. Number of properties (under 11) found to be seriously infested by mice	—	—	—	—	—
5. Number of infested properties (under 3 and 4) treated by Local Authority	11	73	1	13	98
6. Number of notices served under Section 4:					
(1) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—

	Type of Property			All other (including Business & Industrial)	TOTAL
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agri- cultural		
7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4.	—	—	—	—	—
8. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
9. Number of “block” control schemes carried out	—	1	—	1	—

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948 — 1. INSPECTIONS

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of				M/c Line No. (7)
		No. on Regis- ters (3)	Inspec- tions (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers prose- cuted (6)	
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	28	6	2	—	—
2. Factories not included in 1 in which 7 is enforced by Local Authorities	2	87	9	4	—	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities	3	1	—	—	—	—
TOTAL		116	15	6	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were					
	M/c line No.	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. by Inspector	H.M. Inspector	No. of Prosecu- tions
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)						
(a) insufficient ...	9	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	10	6	4	—	5	—
(c) not separate for sexes ...	11	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not includ- ing offences relating to Outwork) ...	12	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL		6	4	—	5	—

